

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (currently amended) A digital image signal processing apparatus, to which an input digital image signal is input, said digital image processing apparatus comprising:

storing means for storing a digital image signal;

extracting means for extracting a signal representing a specific area from the digital image signal stored in said storing means;

detecting means for detecting a motion of the specific area based on the input digital image signal and the extracted signal representing ~~the-a~~ specific area; and

synthesizing means for synthesizing the input digital image signal and the ~~extracted signal representing the specific area~~digital image signal stored in said storing means so as to align ~~the-a~~ position of the extracted specific area and ~~the-a~~ position of a corresponding area represented by the input digital image signal;

wherein said storing means updates the digital image signal stored therein with an output signal supplied from said synthesizing means.

Claim 2. (original) A signal processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said synthesizing means comprises:

shifting means for shifting the position of the input image or the position of the specific area according to the motion detected by said detecting means; and

adding means for adding the input image and the specific area.

Claim 3. (original) A signal processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein an object constituting said specific area moves differently from an object constituting the other area.

Claim 4. (original) A signal processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said detecting means detects the motion on the basis of a unit having a pitch smaller than that of the pixels of the input image, the pixel density of the synthesized image being higher than the pixel density of the input image.

Claim 5. (original) A signal processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said detecting means detects the motion on the basis of a unit having the same pitch as that of the pixels of the input image, the pixel density of the synthesized image being the same as the pixel density of the input image.

Claim 6. (original) A signal processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said synthesizing means comprises:

shifting means for shifting the position of the specific area according to the motion detected by said detecting means; and
adding means for adding the specific area having been shifted and the input image.

Claim 7. (original) A signal processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said synthesizing means comprises:

shifting means for shifting the position of the input image according to the motion detected by said detecting means; and
adding means for adding the input image having been shifted and the specific area.

Claim 8. (original) A signal processing apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising second extracting means for extracting an area corresponding to the specific area from the input image.

Claim 9. (original) A signal processing apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein said adding means adds the input image and the specific area by a weighted addition.

Claim 10. (original) A signal processing apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein said adding means adds the input image and the specific area by a weighted addition.

Claim 11. (original) A signal processing apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein said adding means adds the input image and the specific area by a weighted addition.

Claim 12. (currently amended) A method of processing an input digital image signal, said method comprising the steps of:

storing a digital image signal;

extracting a signal representing a specific area from the digital image signal stored;

detecting a motion of the specific area based on the input digital image signal and the extracted signal representing the-a specific area;

synthesizing the input digital image signal and the digital image signal stored in said storing means ~~extracted signal representing the specific area~~ so as to align the-a

position of the extracted specific area and ~~the-a~~ position of a corresponding area represented by the input digital image signal; and
updating the digital image signal stored with a signal obtained in the synthesizing step.

Claim 13. (original) A method according to Claim 12, wherein the synthesizing step comprises the steps of:

shifting the position of the input image or the position of the specific area according to the motion detected in the detecting step; and
adding the input image and the specific area.

Claim 14. (original) A method according to claim 12, wherein an object constituting said specific area moves differently from an object constituting the other area.

Claim 15. (original) A method according to Claim 12, wherein the detecting step detects the motion on the basis of a unit having a pitch smaller than that of the pixels of the input image, the pixel density of the synthesized image being higher than the pixel density of the Input image.

Claim 16. (original) A method according to Claim 12, wherein the detecting step detects the motion on the basis of a unit having the same pitch as that of the pixels of the input image, the pixel density of the synthesized image being the same as the pixel density of the input image.

Claim 17. (original) A method according to Claim 12, wherein the synthesizing step comprises the steps of:

shifting the position of the specific area according to the motion detected in the detecting step; and

adding the specific area having been shifted and the input image.

Claim 18. (original) A method according to Claim 12, wherein the synthesizing step comprises the steps of:

shifting the position of the input image according to the motion detected in the detecting step; and

adding the input image having been shifted and the specific area.

Claim 19. (original) A method according to Claim 13, wherein the adding step adds the input image and the specific area by a weighted addition.

Claim 20. (original) A method according to Claim 13, wherein the adding step adds the input image and the specific area by a weighted addition.

Claim 21. (original) A method according to Claim 17, wherein the adding step adds the input image and the specific area by a weighted addition.

Claim 22. (original) A method according to Claim 18, wherein the adding step adds

the input image and the specific area by a weighted addition.

Claim 23. (currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing a program for processing an input digital image signal, said program comprising the steps of:

- storing a digital image signal;
- extracting a signal representing a specific area from the digital image signal stored;
- detecting a motion of the specific area based on the input digital image signal and the extracted signal representing ~~the-a~~ specific area;
- synthesizing the input digital image signal and the digital image signal stored in said storing means ~~extracted signal representing the specific area so as to align the-a position of the extracted specific area and the-a position of a corresponding area represented by the input digital image signal; and~~
- updating the digital image signal stored with a signal obtained in the synthesizing step.

Claim 24. (original) A computer-readable storage medium according to Claim 23, wherein the synthesizing step comprises the steps of:

- shifting the position of the input image or the position of the specific area according to the motion detected in the detecting step; and
- adding the input image and the specific area.

Claim 25. (original) A computer-readable storage medium according to Claim 23, wherein an object constituting said specific area moves differently from an object constituting the other area.

Claim 26. (original) A computer-readable storage medium according to Claim 23, wherein the detecting step detects the motion on the basis of a unit having a pitch smaller than that of the pixels of the input image, the pixel density of the synthesized image being higher than the pixel density of the input image.

Claim 27. (original) A computer-readable storage medium according to Claim 23, wherein the detecting step detects the motion on the basis of a unit having the same pitch as that of the pixels of the input image, the pixel density of the synthesized image being the same as the pixel density of the input image.

Claim 28. (original) A computer-readable storage medium according to Claim 23, wherein the synthesizing step comprises the steps of:

shifting the position of the specific area according to the motion detected in the detecting step; and

adding the specific area having been shifted and the input image.

Claim 29. (original) A computer-readable storage medium according to Claim 23, wherein the synthesizing step comprises the steps of:

shifting the position of the input image according to the motion detected in the detecting

step; and

adding the input image having been shifted and the specific area.

Claim 30. (original) A computer-readable storage medium according to Claim 23, further comprising a second extracting step of extracting an area corresponding to the specific area from the input image.

Claim 31. (original) A computer-readable storage medium according to Claim 24, wherein the adding step adds the input image and the specific area by a weighted addition.

Claim 32. (original) A computer-readable storage medium according to Claim 28, wherein the adding step adds the input image and the specific area by a weighted addition.

Claim 33. (original) A computer-readable storage medium according to Claim 29, wherein the adding step adds the input image and the specific area by a weighted addition.

Claim 34. (new) A signal processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said extracting means extracts said signal representing the specific area on the basis of a luminance level and an edge sharpness of the specific area.

Claim 35. (new) A signal processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said specific area is either a telop or an object which moves differently from the background area.

Claim 36. (new) A signal processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said storing means updates the digital image signal by accumulating with said output signal supplied from said synthesizing means.

Claim 37. (new) A signal processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said synthesizing means synthesizes the input digital image signal and the extracted signal representing the specific area.